

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of participating in the interview held on March 5, 2004. In view of the same, independent claim 67 has been amended to recite an extender that is configured to mate with a first leg after a body is placed in vasculature. As such, it is believed that each of the pending claims now define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: _____

John V. Hanley

Registration No. 38,171

JVH/ksl
Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201
44488.1